

Application Serial No. 09/869,082
Amendment dated December 17, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 17, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 through 19. (Cancelled)

20 (currently amended): An apparatus for processing of a sample comprising:
coverslip for a microscope slide
a coverslip having a concave well disposed on said slide;
wherein said concave well a portion of said coverslip is concave thereby enclosing
having a known volume;
wherein said concave well encloses said known volume when placed onto said
microscope slide.

21 (currently amended): The apparatus coverslip of claim 20 further comprising reagents dried thereon.

22 (currently amended): ~~A combination of the coverslip~~ The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a microscope slide and an insert sandwiched between a portion of said coverslip and said microscope slide.

23 (currently amended): The apparatus combination of claim 22 wherein said insert comprises a control sample.

24 (currently amended): The apparatus coverslip of claim 20 wherein said coverslip is labeled with a barcode or text.

25 (currently amended): A method of performing an assay on a biological sample on a microscope slide, comprising:

- a) placing a biological sample on a microscope slide;
- b) providing a coverslip having a concave well having a known volume;
- b) placing ~~the coverslip of claim 20~~ on said microscope slide;
- c) allowing water, buffer or reagent to flow into the ~~known volume between said microscope slide and said coverslip~~ concave well; and
- d) allowing a reaction to occur.

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26 (original): The method of claim 25 wherein said coverslip comprises a reagent predried onto it.

27 through 43 (cancelled).

44 (New): A system for performing an assay on a biological sample on a microscope slide, comprising:

means for placing a biological sample on a microscope slide;

means for providing a coverslip having a concave well having a known volume;

means for placing coverslip on said microscope slide;

means for allowing water, buffer or reagent to flow into the concave well; and

means for allowing a reaction to occur.